



Battle Lines Form For Rapid Transit

By EDWIN S. CAPPS
Capitol News Service
SACRAMENTO — Skirmish lines are being formed in the California Legislature for the expected big battle in 1968 over financing of rapid transit development.

The lines began to form following the release of a policy statement by Governor Ronald Reagan.

Reagan said he would propose legislation next year to enable local residents to ap-

prove ways of raising local transportation funds. Funds could be raised through such sources as a sales tax on gasoline, increased motor vehicle in lieu tax, or a utility tax.

THE KEY to Reagan's proposal is that it would require a vote of the people before any new or higher tax could be levied.

"By requiring local voter approval, rather than merely

imposing a tax throughout the state, we can be assured that the tax would be assessed only when and where a need is shown to exist," Reagan said.

The requirement of a local vote to initiate the tax to provide financing for transit development suits Senator Randolph Collier (D-Yreka) just fine. It was Collier's transportation committee which bot-

ted during the 1967 session.

"WE MUST call this public transit," Collier said, "because it's neither rapid nor mass. But our committee plans to offer at least five alternatives for raising funds for financing the public transit. These would have to be voted on by the people."

Collier said his alternatives would include the three list-

ed by Governor Reagan, plus two others, one of which would be a property tax.

In the Assembly, however, Assemblyman John F. Foran (D-San Francisco), chairman of the lower house Transportation and Commerce Committee, was not so enthusiastic.

FORAN said he would favor legislation which would im-

posed increased in lieu tax on a statewide basis. The counties which wished to use the new money for public transportation could do so. Other counties could use the money to correct deficiencies in their street and road systems.

"The automobile clubs and the oil companies would be happy to have the requirement of the local vote of the people to initiate the new or higher taxes," Foran said.

"because they know they can beat the elections. And they can spend a lot of money to make sure they do defeat the tax proposals."

As for his own idea, while the Bay Rapid Transit District (BART) already is building a transit system—and is running considerably short of funds—Foran said he agreed with Reagan's position. Reagan's position said that in districts where the people already have voted on a method of financing, it would be up to the legislature to recognize the situation and make allowances for it.

By Artie Dee
Transportation Editor
Maybe I'm older, but the weeks fly by like telephone poles past a train window. I just got the gasoline tickets from my vacation and already the Christmas decorations are up. Remember last year's Christmas shopping? This year can be different if you take my advice. Many fine stores are on or near RTD bus lines all over the county. Take Wilshire Boulevard, for example, many excellent stores are but a few steps from an 83 Line bus stop. So why not give it a try, unless of course, you especially enjoy full parking lots, crowded streets and all that.

Movieland Wax Museum is an interesting place to go. Chock full of nostalgic scenes from unforgettable movies, it provides a delightful change of pace. It's located on Beach Boulevard in Buena Park; RTD Line 58 stops almost in front of the door. Take any bus going to downtown Los Angeles and change to Line 58 in the new RTD/Greyhound Terminal at 6th and Los Angeles Streets. The trip takes about 50 minutes.

On December 30, 1967 the Lakers and the Kings will move to their sparkling new home, the Forum, located at Manchester and Prairie in Inglewood. RTD offers good service to that part of town, and since the Inglewood City Lines are also RTD's now, transferring will help even more. The RTD's 5-54-100-85 plus Inglewood locals 1-2-3-4 go either directly to the Forum or offer service by transferring.

Q—I want to ride the RTD bus to Compton Junior College. I live near Central Boulevard. K.R.

A—Take the RTD Line to Compton and Willowbrook and change to the 115 Line to the College. Don't forget your Student Privilege Card for that 50% savings.

Q—Is there a bus from Manhattan Beach to San Bernardino? Is Saturday schedule different from weekdays? Mr. R. E. W.

A—It takes only two buses. Catch the 51 Line going north on Highland Avenue in Manhattan Beach and ride to 6th and Main in Los Angeles. Walk a short block east to the new terminal and catch the 60 line to San Bernardino. I will send you both timetables and a map.

Q—Please tell me what RTD routes I would use to get to Slauson & Atlantic in Maywood from San Pedro? How long does the trip take? E. L.

A—You can catch the 66 Line to the Long Beach depot and change to the 61 Line going to Pasadena and get off at Atlantic and Slauson. The trip will take you about one hour and 20 minutes.

Q—Please advise us as to the RTD service to downtown Los Angeles. We live near 120th and Felton. A. P. K.

A—The 103 Line is the one you catch near your house on Eucalyptus. Ride to Broadway and Hawthorne and change to the RTD 5 Line to downtown Los Angeles.

Send your questions to Transportation Editor, Artie Dee, care of this newspaper. All questions will be answered in this column or by mail. A system map will be sent free to each person submitting a question, or call 747-4455 for detailed information.

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